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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

TOSHIKI TAKAHASHI, ET AL. : EXAMINER: LUND, J.

SERIAL NO: 10/739,351 :

FILED: DECEMBER 19, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1763

FOR: EXHAUST RING MECHANISM  
AND PLASMA PROCESSING  
APPARATUS USING THE SAME

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 12, 2006, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.